

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF LOWELL OBSERVATORY

HON. TOM O'HALLERAN

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 6, 2019

Mr. O'HALLERAN. Madam Speaker, on May 28, 1894 Percival Lowell arrived in Flagstaff, Arizona Territory and officially began operations at his new astronomical observatory. This was one of the first permanent scientific establishments in the western United States and one of the most storied centers for scientific research and outreach in the world. As we celebrate Lowell Observatory's 125th anniversary this year, we not only look back to honor its rich heritage, but also look ahead to a future in which the sky is not the limit but the starting point.

Percival Lowell was the scion of a Boston Brahmin clan steeped in the traditions of public service and community leadership. His siblings alone included brother Abbott Lawrence, president of Harvard University for 24 years, and Pulitzer-Prize-winning poet Amy. Percival Lowell established his observatory initially to study Mars and the possibility of intelligent life there. He transcended science into pop culture by writing several popular books and lecturing widely. His provocative ideas triggered much discussion and debate—both within and outside of scientific circles—about extraterrestrial life. This standard set by Lowell to not only carry out research but to share the wonder and awe of space with the public led to the observatory's dual mission of research and education.

Some significant contributions made at Lowell Observatory:

V.M. Slipher detected the first evidence of the expanding universe in 1912.

Clyde Tombaugh discovered Pluto in 1930.

At the urging of Lowell scientists, Flagstaff enacted the world's first dark skies ordinance in 1958. This laid the path for future regulations that culminated in the community's designation as the first International Dark Sky City, in 2001.

Flagstaff continues to serve as a model for dark skies protection.

The second class of astronauts, the so-called "Next Nine" that included Neil Armstrong, and Jim Lovell, visited Lowell Observatory in 1963 to learn about the lunar mapping efforts going on here. This was part of a training exercise in northern Arizona that proved an important step in preparing the astronauts for their missions to the Moon.

A team of scientists, including many from Lowell, discovered the rings of Uranus in 1977.

Using observations with several research instruments, including Lowell Observatory's Perkins Telescope, Vera Rubin and Kent Ford confirmed the existence of dark matter in 1978.

A team of scientists, including many from Lowell, discovered Pluto's atmosphere in 1988.

Lowell scientist Will Grundy served as a team leader on the New Horizons mission's 2015 exploration of Pluto. This mission returned stunning images of the only planet in our solar system discovered in the United States.

Today, scientists at Lowell use a variety of ground- and space-based instruments for research—including Lowell Observatory's flagship Discovery Channel Telescope, one of the most versatile telescopes in the world. Meanwhile, the visitor program welcomes more than 100,000 guests per year and in the fall will complete construction of the Giovale Open Deck Observatory, the first stage of a multi-year master plan that will greatly increase the observatory's educational reach.

In recognition of Lowell's heritage of science, education, culture, and history, the observatory was designated a Registered National Historic Landmark by the National Park Service in 1965 and identified as an Arizona Treasure in 2005 by Governor Janet Napolitano. In 2011 Time magazine named it one of "The World's 100 Most Important Places." Also, Astronomy magazine Editor Dave Eicher recently nicknamed Lowell Observatory "America's Observatory" because of its "unique combination of astronomical history and famous discoveries".

AMERICAN DREAM AND PROMISE ACT OF 2019

SPEECH OF

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 4, 2019

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the following letter in support of H.R. 6, The American Dream and Promise Act of 2019.

ASSOCIATION OF JESUIT COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES (AJCU),
May 31, 2019.

Hon. HENRY CUELLAR,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE CUELLAR: I write to you, an alum of one of our nation's Jesuit colleges and universities, in support of H.R. 6, the Dream and Promise Act of 2019, as it was amended by the House Judiciary Committee earlier this month. This is important legislation that clearly reflects the values of Jesuit institutions across the country.

The Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities (AJCU) stated in 2016:

"Grounded in our Catholic and Jesuit mission, we are guided by our commitment to uphold the dignity of every person, to work for the common good of our nation, and to promote a living faith that works for justice. We see our work of teaching, scholarship and the formation of minds and spirits as a sacred trust.

That calls us to labor for solidarity among all people, and especially with and for the poor and marginalized in our society. That trust calls us to embrace the entire human

family, regardless of their immigration status or religious allegiance. And experience has shown us that our communities are immeasurably enriched by the presence, intelligence and contributions of undocumented students, as well as of faculty and staff of every color and from every faith tradition."

That statement went on to reaffirm our commitment to the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program. Likewise, its principles lead us to strongly support passage of H.R. 6, which would finally provide lawful permanent resident status, and a pathway toward citizenship for the Dreamers who are very much a part of Jesuit campus communities across the nation. The presence of those young people on our campuses has enabled us to come to know and admire them. They have long considered the United States their home and, in fact, many of them have hardly any recollections of the countries where they were born. These individuals are pursuing or have successfully completed at least two years of higher education, served in our military or been steadily employed.

Simply put, we cannot imagine not wanting these individuals to remain a part of our country. Under provisions of H.R. 6, those who qualify for the program cannot have committed a felony or other serious crimes and can pose no threat to national security or public safety. These individuals are contributing to our society and our economy. They work and pay taxes. Indeed, they have lived their lives as Americans, but with the exception of having the legal status that they well deserve. For too long, they have had to live with uncertainty. With your help, by voting for H.R. 6, Congress will have taken a major step to remedy that situation.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL J. SHEERAN, S.J.,
President, Association of Jesuit
Colleges and Universities.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND MILITARY SERVICE OF WORLD WAR II VETERAN, JOSEPH LEON MERRITT

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 6, 2019

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life and military service of World War II Veteran Joseph Leon Merritt. Mr. Merritt has always placed God and family first in his life, offering friendship and brotherly love to all those who crossed his path.

Mr. Merritt was born on May 27, 1919, in Sturgis, Mississippi. He spent his early life in Itawamba County with his parents, Frank and Lula Lee Merritt, and his seven siblings. After the war, Mr. Merritt moved to Louisville, Mississippi where he still resides to this day.

From 1942 to 1946, Mr. Merritt answered the call to serve our great nation in the U.S. Marines. Serving as a driver and bulldozer operator, Mr. Merritt rose to the rank of Corporal and was recognized for participating in actions

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

against the enemy in Tarawa, Saipan, and Tinian. Mr. Merritt founded Merritt Plumbing Company in Louisville and worked there until his retirement in 1983.

In 1945, Mr. Merritt married Gladys Taylor, and they remained together for almost 70 years. Upon Mr. Merritt's return from military service, the family grew to include two children, Joe Merritt and Carol Higginbotham. Mr. Merritt now has six grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Throughout his life and to this day, Mr. Merritt set an example for his children to follow. Mr. Merritt, a lifelong Christian, was an active member of Poplar Flat Baptist Church, where he served as Music Director for 50 years and was chosen to be a deacon of the church.

On Memorial Day of 2019, Mr. Merritt celebrated his 100th birthday. Mr. Merritt is an American patriot who served our great nation and continues to set an example for others to follow. We wish him many more years of good health.

RECOGNIZING MS. YNETTE LOPEZ
OF PIPER HIGH SCHOOL CLASS
OF 2020

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 6, 2019

Mr. HASTINGS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Ynette Lopez, a student at Piper High School and Class of 2020 in Sunrise, Florida. This remarkable young lady has a current weighted GPA of 3.4, while taking a rigorous schedule of all Honors classes. Additionally, she is passionate about her extracurricular activities, hobbies, and volunteer work. She is a six-year professional clarinetist and currently occupies the 1st chair position with the Bengal Band of Pride.

Ynette has volunteered at the Department of Veterans Affairs since 2017. Her father is a disabled veteran with post-traumatic stress disorder. Growing up and learning so much about his disability, she was inspired to give back in the best way possible. She has accrued more than 200 hours of volunteer work in her many different capacities. Ynette has gained valuable experience by scheduling appointments, communicating with others, and delivering important documents to various offices at the Broward County Veterans Hospital.

She is currently preparing to take the next step in her future and will apply early admission in November of this year. Ynette plans to attend Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University in Tallahassee, where she will study Sociology with a Psychology minor. Ynette's persistence, dedication, and ambition has carried her far and I wish her much success in the future.

IN HONOR OF MASTER SERGEANT
ELVIN TRUSTY, III FOR HIS EX-
EMPLARY SERVICE

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 6, 2019

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Master Sergeant Elvin

Trusty, III for his dedicated service. His commitment to country and community is worthy of commendation.

Born and raised in Baltimore, Maryland, MSG Elvin Trusty attended Dunbar Sr. High School prior to completing Basic Combat and Advanced Individual Training at Fort Sill in Oklahoma. He became the Battalion Operations Sergeant on the Wolf Team at the National Training Center at Fort Irwin and later assumed duties as Operations Group First Sergeant. MSG Trusty completed two full tours and one extended tour in Iraq and a tour in Afghanistan, earning numerous medals and awards for his service. MSG Trusty currently attends the University of Louisville pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Organizational Leadership and Learning. He is also a military science instructor and assistant chair of the Army Officer Education Program at the University of Michigan.

MSG Trusty has shown a tremendous love for his country and community. His years as an educator and a member of the United States Military exemplify the selflessness of public service and stand as a testament to duty, honor, and country. We thank Master Sergeant Elvin Trusty, III for his commitment to protecting the American people and we congratulate him on his retirement. His dedicated leadership will be missed, but we wish him good health and every happiness in his retirement years.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Master Sergeant Elvin Trusty, III for his exemplary service. He has effectively served Michigan and its residents through his selflessness and leadership.

HONORING GUNNERY SERGEANT
HENRY L. BAUL, FOUNDER OF
MONTFORD POINT MARINES OF
AMERICA, INC.

HON. RASHIDA TLAIB

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 6, 2019

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, it is with great honor that I recognize Gunnery Sergeant Henry L. Baul, the 5th African-American Marine in the nation to be inducted into the U.S. Marine Corps in 1942 following President Franklin Delano Roosevelt's Executive Order 8802, which ended discrimination in the armed forces.

Although the executive order may have intended to end all discrimination, it did not end segregation. Between 1942 and 1949, approximately twenty thousand Black Marines trained at a segregated facility named Camp Montford Point, New River, Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune in North Carolina. The Montford Marine Corp is derived from the name of the facility and Mr. Baul trained there.

In 2011, President Barack Obama and the 112th U.S. Congress passed legislation to award the Congressional Gold Medal to the Montford Marine Corp at a special ceremony at the U.S. Capitol and Marine Corps Barracks here in D.C.

Mr. Baul, age ninety-six, is a resident of the city of Detroit. He is also Founder and President-Emeritus of the Montford Point Marines of America, Inc. non-profit.

I am proud to recognize Mr. Baul for his work and service. Mr. Baul and so many oth-

ers decided to serve this country even in the face of adversity and discrimination right here at home. Today, I lift up the veterans across the 13th Congressional District and the great state of Michigan in recognition of their service and commitment.

AMERICAN DREAM AND PROMISE
ACT (H.R. 6)

HON. GRACE MENG

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 6, 2019

Ms. MENG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate alongside the hundreds of thousands of DACA recipients and TPS holders on the historic passage of the American Dream and Promise Act. I was proud to join my House colleagues this week in passing H.R. 6—and thereby marking a critical milestone in the long fight to protect those who have known only this country as their home.

For too long, DACA recipients have been left wondering and waiting, not knowing what will happen with their immigration status. It is time we end that. TPS recipients remain living year-by-year—wondering if their TPS status will be extended. It is time we end that. Dreamers and TPS recipients are our neighbors and friends; they contribute to our communities, pay taxes, fight for our country and our freedoms, and live and work toward the American dream.

The Trump Administration's approach to immigration has been cruel, unjust, and vicious. Its decision to dismantle the DACA program and terminate TPS designations for several countries is inhumane and an abandonment of American values and principles. Instead of working toward a future that creates hope and opportunity for Dreamers, and TPS and DED recipients, the Administration has relentlessly sought to further drive them into the shadows and close the door on their dreams and aspirations.

DACA has enabled 800,000 Dreamers who came to the United States as children, through no decision of their own, to get an education, to get jobs, and to meaningfully contribute to the economy of the only country they have ever called home. They have shown incredible potential and achievement. For instance, Jin Park, one of my constituents from Queens, NY, is the first DACA recipient to be awarded the prestigious Rhodes Scholarship, and he will begin his studies this fall at the University of Oxford in England. Instead of having the usual worries of living and studying abroad, Jin fears he may not be allowed to return to the United States. We need the American Dream and Promise Act for Jin.

Furthermore, with respect to TPS, I think about my constituents, the Nepali community of Queens, who were deeply impacted by the April 2015 massive 7.8 magnitude earthquake that devastated Nepal and destroyed over half a million homes. Today, we have 400,000 foreign nationals living in the U.S. with TPS, some of whom have lived in the U.S. for decades. And I am proud to have fought in Congress for Nepal's TPS designation and extension. TPS is not a decision that is made lightly, but it is a decision that is made compassionately. We need the American Dream and Promise Act for the Nepali community, and all the other TPS recipients.